

Investigation by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy on its own Motion as to the propriety of the rates and charges set forth in the following tariff: M.D.T.E. No. 17, filed with the Department on April 10, 2002, to become effective May 10, 2002, by Verizon New England, Inc. d/b/a Verizon Massachusetts

LEGAL NOTICE

On April 10, 2002, Verizon New England, Inc. d/b/a Verizon Massachusetts ("Verizon") filed revisions to its tariff M.D.T.E. No. 17 with the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department"). The proposed tariff revisions reduce the Department-approved rates for local switching and transport usage to the levels that Verizon is proposing be adopted in the Department's investigation into UNE costs, D.T.E. 01-20. In addition, Verizon is proposing to reduce the charges for Unbundled Telephone Company Reciprocal Compensation and Unbundled TC Reciprocal Compensation to be equivalent to the proposed terminating local switching rate. The Department has the authority to allow Verizon's proposal, which it has docketed as D.T.E. 02-26, to take effect while it continues its investigation, with prospective adjustment if necessary.

Verizon is required to publish this legal notice in a one-eighth page advertisement in the Boston Globe or the Boston Herald as soon as practicable but no later than **Monday, April 22, 2002**. Persons interested in commenting on Verizon's filing, specifically on the question of suspension of the proposed tariff revisions, may file written comments on or before the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Tuesday, April 30, 2002** with Mary Cottrell, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station, Second Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. See 220 C.M.R. 1.04(1)(d). All comments must be submitted by electronic mail to Paula.Foley@state.ma.us and dte.efiling@state.ma.us in addition to filing the comments with the Secretary at the above address.

All parties to D.T.E. 01-20 will be parties to D.T.E. 02-26, and Verizon is required to provide a copy of this legal notice to all such persons. Verizon also is required to serve a copy of this legal notice on all parties on the service list for D.T.E. 99-271 and D.T.E. 98-57- Phase III. Any other person who desires to participate in an adjudicatory proceeding concerning Verizon's proposal must file a written petition for leave to intervene or to otherwise participate in the proceeding with Mary Cottrell at the above address no later than the close of business on **Friday, April 26, 2002**. A petition to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 C.M.R. § 1.03. Receipt by the Department – not mailing – constitutes filing and determines whether a petition has been timely filed. A late-filed petition to intervene

may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for waiver of the intervention deadline. To be allowed, a petition under 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10.

By Order of the Department,

_____/s/_____
Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary